MINUTES OF MISSISSIPPI TORT CLAIMS BOARD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board (Board) meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 138, Woolfolk State Office Building; 501 North West Street; Jackson, Mississippi.

The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

P. Ryan Beckett, Chairman

Causey, Kim; Representing Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney, MS Insurance Department

Jackson, Laura; Deputy State Treasurer, Representing Treasurer Lynn Fitch Upchurch, Kevin; Executive Director, MS Department of Finance and Administration

Also present were:

Burkhalter, Chris; Bickerstaff, Whatley, Ryan & Burkhalter

Kelly, Trina; Tort Claims Board

Logan, Jim; Tort Claims Board

McElroy, Lea Ann; Tort Claims Board

Preziosi, Misti; Office of the State Treasurer

Stephenson, Matt; Bickerstaff, Whatley, Ryan & Burkhalter

Wells, Lisa; Cannon Cochran Management Services, Inc.

Wilson, Jeff; Trinity Capital

Woodcock, J. D. "Woody"; Attorney General's Office

Motion was made by Mr. Upchurch to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2014, meeting. Mrs. Jackson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

In Old Business, Mrs. McElroy provided the Board with Speaker Gunn's letter naming Representative Mark Baker as the House designee to the Board.

In New Business, Mrs. McElroy presented a recommendation to contract with Tim Farley of Farley Management, Inc. for an independent audit of our claim files. Mr. Upchurch made a motion to approve the contract. Mrs. Causey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. During discussion, Board members expressed the desire for a policy setting the frequency for claim file audits. Mrs. McElroy will bring a proposal to the Board in November.

Mr. Logan presented financial reports for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 through August 31, 2014. The Cash Flow Analysis details total expenditures for FY15 of \$1.1 million. Total funds of \$13.6 million breakdown by account with \$1 million in the Treasury, \$238,596 in the Trustmark TPA account, and \$12.34 million in investments. Mr. Logan advised that the fund has \$10.1 million in reserves and \$3.4 million in unencumbered funds. Claims paid in FY15

total \$471,007. We have paid 166 claims, and there are 685 open claims. The average claim paid is \$2,837 and the average reserve is \$14,839. Mr. Logan then reviewed the Budget Comparison by category for fiscal year 2015. Lapse period expenses totaled \$173,217 closing out fiscal year 2014.

Mr. Wilson presented the investment report through August 2014. The portfolio currently has \$12.7 million invested with a market value of \$12.5 million. The investment is earning 2.18% on the book value, and the internal year-to-date rate of return is 1.35% for the calendar year. The weighted average life of the portfolio is just under 2.5 years. The portfolio has earned just over \$148,000 for calendar year 2014, and just over \$20,000 for fiscal year 2015. Mr. Wilson also reviewed the Performance Report for the Board.

Mrs. Preziosi presented a recommended Investment Policy to the Board, which included investment objectives, Investment Manager procedures, performance expectations, portfolio requirements, allowable investments, reporting requirements, and restrictions. Following discussion including Mr. Wilson, Mr. Upchurch made a motion to adopt the policy with the addition of language that "The State Treasurer may choose to hire investment advisors with the approval of the Tort Claims Board." The policy will be reviewed by the Board annually. Mrs. Causey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Chairman thanked the Treasurer's Office for their work on the policy and for working with Jeff Wilson.

Lastly, Mrs. McElroy provided the responses to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee's FY 2016 Budget Request Summary for information.

In Mr. Milner's absence, Mrs. McElroy provided members a report of his Loss Control activities since the last Board meeting. She also noted a State Fair Planning Meeting September 25th and State Fair duty October 1-12.

Mrs. McElroy presented one (1) attorney for inclusion on the approved Attorney Register: W. Lee Watt of Gibbs Whitwell & Travis. He does meet the eligibility requirements of the Board and staff recommends approval. Mr. Upchurch moved to approve and Mrs. Jackson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McElroy presented a list of 67 political subdivisions with the recommendation that all be approved for renewal of Certificates of Coverage. Mr. Upchurch made a motion to approve the list and Mrs. Jackson seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

In the absence of Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. McElroy reviewed the case of William Buckley v. MS Department of Transportation and the settlement recommendation reached through mediation. Following discussion, Mr. Upchurch made a motion to approve settlement authority of \$200,000. Mrs. Causey seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

P. RYAN BECKETT, CHAIRMAN

Mike Chang/Unlock
MIKE CHANEY, BOARD MEMBER

LYNN FITCH, BOARD MEMBER

JIM HOOD, BOARD MEMBER

GARY RIKARD, BOARD MEMBER

ALBERT SANTA CRUZ, BOARD MEMBER

KEVIN J. UPCHURCH, BOARD MEMBER

Mississippi Tort Claims Board Thursday, September 11, 2014 – 1:30 P.M.

AGENDA

I.	Approval of Minutes
	A. July 10, 2014

- II. Old Business
 A. Speaker's Letter
- III. New Business
 A. Claims Audit Contract
- IV. Financial Reports
 - A. Financial Report Jim Logan
 - B. Investment Report Jeff Wilson
 - C. Investment Policy
 - D. Joint Legislative Budget Committee Q&A
- V. Loss Control Steve Milner
- VI. Attorney General's Report Lea Ann McElroy
- VII. Certificates of Coverage Lea Ann McElroy
- VIII. Claims Report Bruce Donaldson
 A. William Buckley vs. Mississippi Department of Transportation
- IX. Adjournment

MINUTES OF MISSISSIPPI TORT CLAIMS BOARD THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2014

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board (Board) meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 138, Woolfolk State Office Building; 501 North West Street; Jackson, Mississippi.

The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

P. Ryan Beckett, Chairman

Jackson, Laura; Deputy State Treasurer, Representing Treasurer Lynn Fitch Eads, Jay; Representing Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney, MS Insurance Department

Lanford, Mike; Deputy Attorney General, Representing Attorney General Jim Hood Upchurch, Kevin; Executive Director, MS Department of Finance and Administration

Also present were:

Baker, Representative Mark; House of Representatives
Buford, David; Institutions of Higher Learning
Burkhalter, Chris; Bickerstaff, Whatley, Ryan & Burkhalter
Burns, John; Cannon Cochran Management Services, Inc.
Donaldson, Bruce; Tort Claims Board
Kelly, Trina; Tort Claims Board
Logan, Jim; Tort Claims Board
McElroy, Lea Ann; Tort Claims Board
Milner, Steve; Tort Claims Board
Stephenson, Matt; Bickerstaff, Whatley, Ryan & Burkhalter
Wells, Teresa; Tort Claims Board
Wilson, Jeff; Trinity Capital
Woodcock, J. D. "Woody"; Attorney General's Office
Younger, Jim; Department of Public Safety

The Chairman welcomed Representative Baker, appointed to the Board by Speaker of the House Phillip Gunn, who was participating in the meeting via telephone. [The call was cut off during the actuarial report in New Business.]

Motion was made by Mr. Lanford to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2014, meeting. Mr. Eads seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

In Old Business, Mrs. McElroy updated the Board on the progress of the Mississippi School Boards Association Casualty Trust. Fifteen (15) school districts have signed on, reflecting about 25% of their original estimate. Premiums and exposure numbers stay true to that percentage as well.

In New Business, Chris Burkhalter, the Board's actuary, presented his report reviewing fiscal year 2014 and providing funding recommendations for fiscal year 2015. The claim count for FY2014 was 947 – the lowest in our history. The expense ratio of 26% compares favorably to commercial insurance markets (35-40%). However, reserves are up meeting 100% of current assets. The assessment recommendations are higher than last fiscal year at \$4.6 million (low), \$5.0 million (central), and \$5.7 million (high). Based on these numbers, the staff's recommendation for the fiscal year 2015 assessment to state agencies is the central figure of \$5.0 million. Following discussion, Mr. Upchurch made the motion to accept the recommendation of \$5.0 million. Mr. Lanford seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Also under New Business, Mr. Jim Logan presented the Budget Request for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016. The 2016 request is a level-funding request of the appropriation for fiscal year 2015. Mr. Upchurch made a motion to approve the Budget Request, and Mr. Lanford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Logan then presented the financial report for fiscal year 2014 through June 30, 2014. The Cash Flow Analysis details total receipts of \$5.8 million and total expenditures of \$5.1 million. Total funds of \$14.4 million breakdown by account with \$1.9 million in the Treasury, \$176,876 in the Trustmark TPA account, and \$12.34 million in investments. Mr. Logan advised that the fund has \$9.9 million in reserves and \$4.4 million in unencumbered funds. Expenses include claim payments of \$1.6 million, legal expenses of \$887,950 and other expenses of \$16,550. The average claim paid is \$2,429 and the average reserve is \$15,750. Mr. Logan then reviewed the Budget Comparison by category for fiscal year 2014 noting that we were well within the budget for this time of year.

Mr. Wilson presented the investment report through June 2014. The portfolio currently has \$12.7 million invested with a market value of \$12.4 million, up substantially from last year. The investment is earning 2.19% on the book value, and the internal year-to-date rate of return is 2.00%. The target for this year will be between 2.0–2.25%. The portfolio has earned just over \$250,000 fiscal-year-to-date. Mr. Wilson also reviewed portfolio composition and maturity distribution charts for the Board.

Mr. Milner provided members a report of his Loss Control activities since the last Board meeting.

Mrs. McElroy presented two (2) attorneys for inclusion on the approved Attorney Register: Nicholas D. Garrard of Wilkins Patterson Smith Pumphrey & Doty, P.A.; and Angela D. Williams of Gibbs Whitwell. Both meet the eligibility requirements of the Board and staff recommends approval. Mr. Lanford moved to approve and Mr. Eads seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McElroy presented a list of 320 political subdivisions with the recommendation that all be approved for renewal of Certificates of Coverage. Mr. Lanford made a motion to approve the list and Mr. Eads seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Donaldson reviewed the case of Lee Sanford v. MS Department of Agriculture & Commerce and the settlement recommendation proposal submitted by our defense attorney, Mark Morrison. Following discussion, Mr. Lanford made a motion to approve settlement authority of \$175,000. Mr. Upchurch seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

As a result of discussion with legal counsel prior to the meeting, Mr. Donaldson did not present the agenda item for "Board Policy Request."

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

P. RYAN BECKETT, CHAIRMAN
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TRUDY FISHER, BOARD MEMBER
Lawa Jacksun Donks EYNN FITCH, BOARD MEMBER
JIM HOOD, BOARD MEMBER
ALBERT SANTA CRUZ, BOARD MEMBER

Kevin J. Upchurch, BOARD MEMBER



Philip Gunn

Mississippi House of Representatives

POST OFFICE BOX 1018 JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39215-1018 601-359-3300

June 13, 2014

Representative Mark Baker P.O. Box 947 Brandon, MS 39043

Dear Representative Baker:

I hereby appoint you to serve on the Mississippi Tort Claims Board which is pursuant to Section 11-46-18 of the Mississippi Code. Your term is effective immediately and will run concurrent with this legislative term.

I appreciate your willingness to serve on this board and for the work that you do in the Mississippi House of Representatives for our great state.

Sincerely,

Philip Gunn

Speaker of the House

Philip Shim

Cc: Governor Phil Bryant
Lt. Governor Tate Reeves
Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann
Secretary of the Senate Liz Welch
Clerk of the House Andrew Ketchings



P. RYAN BECKETT, CHAIRMAN

MIKE CHANEY, Commissioner Insurance Department LYNN FITCH, Treasurer Department of Treasury JIM HOOD, Attorney General Office of Attorney General GARY RIKARD, Executive Director Department of Environmental Quality ALBERT SANTA CRUZ, Commissioner Department of Public Safety KEVIN J. UPCHURCH, Executive Director Department of Finance and Administration

MEMORANDUM

TO:

MS Tort Claims Board

FROM:

Lea Ann McElroy

DATE: RE: September 11, 2014 Claims Audit Contract

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of contract as noted.

Tim Farley & Farley Management, Inc. (FMI) – This contract is for an independent audit of our liability claim files tentatively scheduled for November 19-21, 2014. The audit will include a review of approximately 50 claims (based on an estimated 200 open claims) handled by our Third Party Administrator, as well as 15-20 minor property damage/glass claims handled in-house by Tort Claims staff. Mr. Farley will review file content, conduct personal interviews, and submit written findings with two weeks of his on-site review. The audit will analyze staffing adequacy, case reserve accuracy, thoroughness of claims investigation, payment/settlement reasonableness, claim handling documentation clarity, timeliness and thoroughness of status reports from CCMSI, litigation management, diary maintenance, effectiveness of supervision, and timeliness of excess reporting. The cost of this contract is a flat fee of \$9,000 which includes all necessary expenses.

Combined Financial Report - Fiscal Year 2015 Fund 3080

----CASH FLOW ANALYSIS-----

		July	 <u>August</u>	\	∕ear-To-Date
REVENUE:					
Assessments Received		0.00	0.00		0.00
Interest		11.56	15.37		26.93
Investment Interest		8,956.55	11,065.64		20,022.19
Transfer In Funds		500,000.00	 0.00		500,000.00
Total Revenue	\$	508,968.11	\$ 11,081.01	\$	520,049.12
EXPENSES:	•				
Claim Losses - TCB and TPA		319,550.89	151,456.31		471,007.20
Legal Expenses - TCB and TPA		0.00	51,507.73		51,507.73
Other Expenses - TCB and TPA		3,217.67	1,889.78		5,107.45
Administrative Expenses Paid		46,089.58	65,646.81		111,736.39
Transfer of Funds - Out		500,000.00	 0.00		500,000.00
Total Expenses	\$	868,858.14	\$ 270,500.63	\$	1,139,358.77
FUNDS ON HAND:	-			•****	
Beginning Balance	\$	14,368,203.69	\$ 13,844,163.40		
Revenue		508,968.11	11,081.01		
Expenses		(868,858.14)	(270,500.63)		
Adjustments		(164,150.26)	(9,066.87)		
Total Funds	\$	13,844,163.40	\$ 13,575,676.91		
Cash in Treasury	\$	1,128,947.68	\$ 997,671.12		
Investment in Treasury		12,339,410.00	12,339,410.00		
TPA Trustmark Bank Balance		375,805.72	238,595.79		
Total Funds By Account	\$	13,844,163.40	\$ 13,575,676.91		
Less Reserves	\$	9,925,862.01	\$ 10,164,685.61		
Unencumbered Funds Available	\$	3,918,301.39	\$ 3,410,991.30		

-----CLAIMS/RESERVES DETAIL (Year-To-Date)----

	мтсв	CCMSI	TOTAL
Claims - Payments	\$ 37,822.23	\$ 433,184.97	\$ 471,007.20
Claims - Legal Expenses	51,507.73	-	51,507.73
Claims - Other Expenses	-	5,107.45	 5,107.45
Total Paid Out to Date	\$ 89,329.96	\$ 438,292.42	\$ 527,622.38
OUTSTANDING RESERVES	257,798.13	 9,906,887.48	 10,164,685.61
Total Claims & Reserves	\$ 347,128.09	\$ 10,345,179.90	10,692,307.99
Number of Claims Created	 132	 96	228
Number of Claims Paid	86	80	166
Total Open Claims	 135	550	 685
AVG. CLAIM \$ / # CLAIMS PAID	 \$439.79	\$5,414.81	\$ 2,837.39
AVG. RESERVE / OPEN CLAIMS	 \$1,909.62	 \$18,012.52	\$ 14,838.96

NOTE: Information represents combined operations for Treasury Fund 3080 and the Trustmark account (utilized by CCMSI).

Budget Comparison Report Treasury Fund 3080 Fiscal Year 2015

Expenses:	Total Budget	July 2014	August 2014	Year To Date Expenditures	Ending Balance	Percent Expended
A1-Salaries	\$ 555,000.00	\$ 44,73	3.58 \$ 45,094.93	\$ 89,828.51	\$ 465,171.49	16.19%
A2-Travel	8,000.00		0.00 117.60	117.60	7,882.40	1.47%
B-Contractual	4,727,706.00	96	3.00 71,102.22	72,065.22	4,655,640.78	1.52%
C-Commodities	8,300.00	38	87.00 830.99	1,217.99	7,082.01	14.67%
D2-Capital Outlay	3,500.00		0.00 0.00	0.00	3,500.00	0.00%
E-Subsidies	3,819,924.00	521,69	2.64 16,129.59	537,822.23	3,282,101.77	14.08%
SUBTOTAL	\$ 9,122,430.00	\$ 567,77	76.22 \$ 133,275.3 3	\$ 701,051.55	\$8,421,378.45	<u>7.68</u> %
TPA Expended		301,08	<u>137,225.30</u>	438,307.22		
TOTAL Expended		\$ 868,85	\$ 270,500.63	\$ 1,139,358.77		

Tort Claims Fund (Treasury Fund 3080)

Financial Report - Fiscal Year 2014

----CASH FLOW ANALYSIS-----

	45H	FLOW ANALYS	19		
		July Lapse	Αι	ugust Lapse	YTD Total
REVENUE:					
Assessments Received	\$	- .	\$	_	\$ 4,094,232.89
Interest		0.00		0.00	15,790.35
Investment Interest		0.00		0.00	250,148.99
Workers Comp Service Fees		0.00		0.00	21,543.21
Transfer In Funds		0.00		0.00	 1,450,000.00
Total Revenue		•	\$		\$ 5,831,715.44
EXPENSES:					
Claim Losses - TPA and TCB		0.00		0.00	1,620,395.57
Legal Expenses - TPA and TCB		101,031.26		3,075.87	992,056.69
Other Expenses - TPA and TCB		0.00		0.00	16,549.84
Administrative Expenses Paid		63,119.00		5,991.00	1,156,756.29
Transfer of Funds - Out		0.00		0.00	 1,506,075.00
Total Expenses	\$	164,150.26	\$	9,066.87	\$ 5,291,833.39
CASH ON HAND:					
Revenue		0.00		0.00	
Expenses		(164, 150.26)		(9,066.87)	
Total Cash	\$	(164,150.26)	\$	(9,066.87)	

-----CLAIMS/RESERVES DETAIL (Year-To-Date)----

	Tort Board	CCMSI	TOTAL
Claims - Payments	\$ 71,329.66	\$ 1,549,065.91	\$ 1,620,395.57
Claims - Legal Expenses	987,823.69	4,233.00	\$ 992,056.69
Claims - Other Expenses	450.00	16,099.84	\$ 16,549.84
Total Paid FY 2014	\$ 1,059,603.35	\$ 1,569,398.75	\$ 2,629,002.10

NOTE: Information represents combined operations for Treasury Fund 3080 and the Trustmark account (utilized by CCMSI).



September 2, 2014

Mr. Jim Logan Mississippi Tort Claims Board P O Box 267 Jackson, MS 39205-0267

Re: August 2014 Portfolio Highlights

Total Portfolio	Book Value	\$12,716,431
	Market Value	\$12,527,804
YTD Internal Rate of Return		1.35%
Current Portfolio Book Yield		2.18%
Market Yield		2.93%
Weighted Average Life		Approximately 2.46 years
2014 YTD Interest Earned		148,023
2015 Fiscal YTD Interest Earned		20,023
Accrued Interest		57,381

PERFORMANCE REPORT

State of Mississippi Tort Claims

August 31, 2014 Calendar Year

Portfolio Market Value December 31, 2013	11,719,676
Contributions	
Withdrawals	
Realized Gains	
Unrealized Gains	-188,627
Interest / Dividends	148,023
Portfolio Market Value August 31, 2014 accrued interest	12,527,804 57,381
Average Capital Total Gain IRR 2014	12,636,449 148,023 1.35%

Investment Performance Comparison

	IRR	TRA
Account	1.345%	6.89%
ML 1-3 Yr Agency Index	1.320	0.494
ML 1-3 Yr Treasury Index	1.058	0.499
ML 3-5 Yr Agency Index	1.377	1.701
ML 3-5 Yr Tresury Index	1.346	1.546

6.89%

2.19%

WAL of portfolio is 2.46 years

Total Return Current Yield

MISSISSIPPI TORT CLAIMS FUND INVESTMENT POLICY SEPTEMBER 2014

Statement of Investment Objectives

The Tort Claims Fund was created under MISS. ANN. CODE §11-46-17. The Tort Claims Board authorized the State Treasurer to prudently invest the assets of the Trust pursuant to MISS. ANN. CODE §27-105-33. The State Treasurer may choose to hire investment advisors. The purpose of this document is to delineate guidelines for these outside managers.

The assets of the Trust are to be invested only in fixed income securities. The various types of securities are restricted to those securities listed in the above mentioned legislation. The State Treasurer within his/her discretion may further limit the type and class of security. The State Treasurer will notify the investment manager(s) in writing in the event it further limits the type and class of security. The State Treasurer wishes all outside managers to be sensitive to the following:

- 1. All monies in the fund may be expended by the Mississippi Tort Claims Board for any and all purposes for which the Board is authorized to expend funds under the provisions of the law.
- 2. The principal of the Trust shall be invested as provided by the above mentioned legislation.
- 3. The Fund's income may be appropriated by the Mississippi Legislature.
- 4. Earnings from investment funds shall be net of fees.
- 5. Management fees shall be paid quarterly based on market value.
- 6. In providing asset management services to the Trust, managers should remain mindful that they are investing on behalf of a public trust fund and are expected to comply fully with this Investment Policy at all times. To that end, they are expected to manage risk of the Trust relative to the benchmark and always in a fiduciary capacity. Violation of Investment Policy restrictions may result in immediate termination of the investment management relationship.

Review of Investment Manager Procedures

The schedule for the Review is as follows:

A. Performance evaluation reviews will be conducted quarterly and policy compliance reviews will be conducted monthly.

- B. Each investment manager is expected to make a formal presentation to the Tort Claims Board at the bi-monthly Board meeting in Jackson, Mississippi.
- C. Each investment manager is expected to make a formal presentation annually in Treasury offices located in Jackson, Mississippi.
- D. Representatives of the State Treasury or Tort Claims Board may elect to visit investment managers periodically at the manager's place of business.
- E. Investment managers may be asked to attend special meetings during the review process.

The performance evaluations will include the following general areas:

- A. The investment manager's adherence to the policy guidelines (i.e. their current performance versus expectations).
- B. The opportunities available in their sector of the capital markets.
- C. Material changes in the manager's organization such as investment philosophy, personnel changes, acquisitions or losses of major accounts, etc.

Performance Expectations

Listed below are the guidelines for return targets. These targets are expected to be achieved without exceeding the risk (as defined in Item B of this section) of the benchmark.

The performance standards over a three-year period are as follows:

- A. Exceed the performance of the Custom Benchmark gross of management fees:
 - Blended 70% of the BofA Merrill Lynch 3-5 Year Agency index and 30% of the BofA Merrill Lynch 3-5 Year MBS index.
- B. The risk associated with the manager's portfolio as measured by the variability of quarterly returns (standard deviation), must not exceed that of the above-mentioned index.

Portfolio Requirements

- 1. Minimum 10 percent of the total portfolio must be in direct U.S. Treasury Obligations.
- 2. Maximum weighting in the MBS/CMO sector is not to exceed 30 percent of the total portfolio.
- 3. The maximum maturity of a single issue (excluding MBS/CMO issues) shall not exceed 10 years.

- 4. The weighted average life of the total portfolio shall not exceed 3.5 years.
- 5. For MBS/CMO issues, the final maturity of any issue shall not exceed **30 years** from the date of issuance and the weighted average life shall not exceed **5 years**. Underlying collateral of any CMO issue should be limited to conventional mortgage loans issued by GNMA, FNMA, FHLMC or other government Agency issuers. For MBS and CMO issues, whole-loan or private-label mortgage issuers are <u>not</u> permitted in the portfolio.

Allowable Investments

The following represents a listing of allowable investments:

- 1. Bonds, notes, bills, debentures and other securities issued by the United States, any federal instrumentality, agency and/or government sponsored enterprise that are fully guaranteed by the United States, any federal instrumentality, agency and/or government sponsored enterprise or repurchase agreements guaranteed by the U.S. government.
- 2. Mortgage-backed pass-through securities (MBS) and collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) guaranteed and issued by any federal instrumentality under authority of an Act of Congress such as the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC).
- 3. Other investments may be added from time to time as determined by the Mississippi State Legislature and approved by the State Treasurer's office. The State Treasurer will notify the investment manager(s) in writing if any such other investments are added.

Reporting Requirements

1. Managers will be expected to provide monthly statements and more comprehensive quarterly reports. Quarterly reports should provide a market overview, portfolio statistics, policy compliance, and returns for the quarter, fiscal year-to-date, calendar year-to-date, 1-year, 3-year (annualized), 5-year (annualized), and since inception (annualized), as well as a list of holdings as of quarter-end. Portfolio statistics should be presented in comparison to the index.

Restrictions

The following restrictions are applicable:

- 1. The assets of this Trust cannot be commingled in investments such as mutual funds.
- 2. Neither futures nor options will be allowed.

- 3. No derivatives will be allowed.
- 4. No mortgage-backed securities other than those stated in Item 2 in the Allowable Investments section.
- 5. No reverse mortgage securities will be allowed.

Lynn Fitch	Date
State Treasurer	

MISSISSIPPI Joint Legislative Budget Committee

TATE REEVES
Lieutenant Governor

SENATOR TERRY W. BROWN
President Pro Tempore

SENATOR EUGENE S. CLARKE
Chairman, Appropriations Committee

SENATOR JOEY FILLINGANE
Chairman, Finance Committee

SENATOR TERRY C. BURTON
Chairman, Universities and Colleges Committee

SENATOR DEAN KIRBY
Chairman, Public Health and Welfare Committee

SENATOR WILLIE SIMMONS

Chairman, Highways and Transportation Committee



Chairman PHILIP GUNN, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

DEBBIE RUBISOFF, DIRECTOR Legislative Budget Office

501 North West Street, Suite 201-B Jackson, Mississippi 39201 601-359-1580 FAX 601-359-1629 PHILIP GUNN
Speaker of the House
REPRESENTATIVE GREG SNOWDEN
Speaker Pro Tempore
REPRESENTATIVE HERB FRIERSON
Chairman, Appropriations Committee
REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERY C. SMITH
Chairman, Ways and Means Committee
REPRESENTATIVE ANGELA COCKERHAM
Chairman, Energy Committee
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN L. MOORE
Chairman, Education Committee
REPRESENTATIVE PRESTON E. SULLIVAN
Chairman, Agriculture Committee

To: State Agencies and Institutions

From: Debbie Rubisoff, Director Debbie Kubist

FY 2016 Budget Request Summary

Date: August 7, 2014

Re:

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee hearings for the FY 2016 budget cycle are scheduled to occur <u>September 30th through October 3rd.</u> (Please mark these dates on your calendar.) In order to determine who will be heard, the committee would like to review summary information regarding the FY 2016 budget requests prior to contacting agencies to set up a hearing time.

Please submit this information in PDF format (using the following order) via email to abrs@lbo.ms.gov no later than August 22nd. In the subject line of the email please be sure to reflect your agency name followed by the word "hearing" and your agency's LBO file number (Example: Audit Hearing 155-00)

If you have questions regarding this request, please contact your budget analyst. Thank you for your assistance in the project.

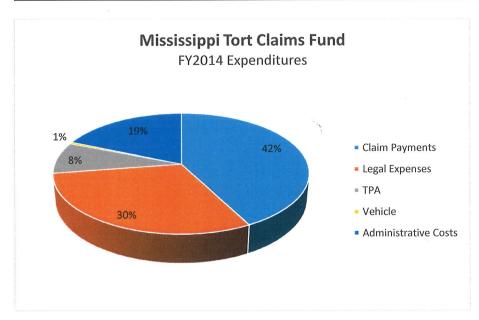
Please answer the following questions and realize that your answers need to be concise and to the
point:
Agency Name:

1. On what did you spend your money last year? Provide us with a detailed breakdown showing where the money went.

Agency Name: Mississippi Tort Claims Board (162-00)

1. On what did you spend your money last year? Provide us with a detailed breakdown showing where the money went.

Colorias	¢500.204	
Salaries	\$509,294	
Travel	\$970	\$640 out-of-state, \$330 in-state
Contractual	\$1,600,759	Includes:
		\$1,123,736 Legal Services & Expenses
		\$ 312,468 Third Party Administrator
		\$ 19,600 Actuary
		\$ 76,492 Outsourced IT
		\$ 47,556 Rent, office space
		\$ 7,260 Rent, copier
		\$ 2,877 Telephone & Long Distance
		\$ 1,110 Employee Training & Tuition
		\$ 6,390 Agency fees (SPB, MMRS, ITS)
		\$ 3,270 other contractual services
Commodities	\$7,893	Includes:
		\$3,974 for fuel and battery for vehicle
		\$2,207 Printing, Office Supplies & Materials
		\$1,712 Office Furniture & Equipment
Equipment	\$4,898	Replacement desktop computers (5)
Vehicle	\$18,200	2015 Ford Fusion replaces 2010 Ford Fusion
		with over 120,000 miles
Subsidies, Loans &	\$1,577,405	Tort Claims
Grants		
	\$3,719,419	



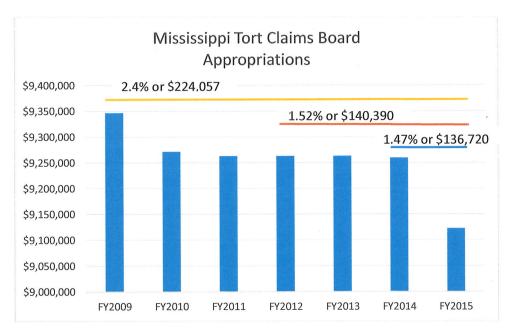
2. What did your agency accomplish through the expenditure of these funds? What goals were achieved?

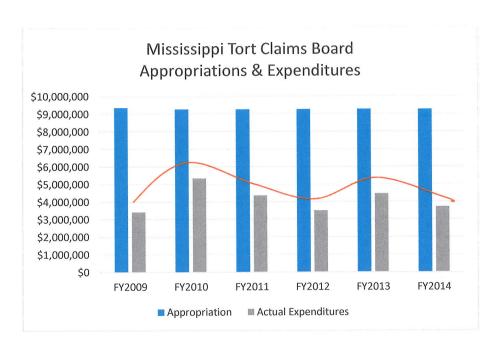
The mission of the Mississippi Tort Claims Board is to provide administrative and technical support for the equitable settlement and payment of claims for injury or damage arising out of the torts of governmental entities and their employees while acting within the course and scope of their employment. We do this through management of the Tort Claims Fund, legal defense of litigated claims, establishment and maintenance of safety and loss control programs, and oversight of liability coverage plans of all political subdivisions. 81% of our expenditures tie directly to the investigation and settlement of claims, legal defense of litigated claims, and safety and loss control programs. The remaining 19% represents salaries and other administrative/overhead expenses – a rate much lower than commercial liability programs – necessary to provide these services as well as the oversight for political subdivision liability plans.

3. How were the taxpayers positively impacted through the expenditure of these funds? What benefits did the taxpayers receive through the expenditure of these funds?

The main elements of our mission – equitable settlement of claims, legal defense of litigated claims, establishment and maintenance of safety and loss control programs, and the oversight of political subdivision liability plans – all benefit taxpayers either directly or indirectly. Each element seeks to protect the safety of the taxpayers or support the public good.

4. What is the numeric and percent change in your budget over the past year (FY 2014 to 2015); past three years (FY 2012-2015); and since FY 2009 (FY 2009-2015)? Explain actual spending and break down by funding source (General Fund, Federal Funds, etc.).





While appropriations have been fairly constant, actual expenditures have fluctuated over the last six fiscal years between \$3.4 million and \$5.4 million. However, you <u>cannot</u> look at this graph and think the appropriation can be reduced down to the actual expenditure level. With claims, there is always a level of reserves – an amount set aside for claims you have received but not yet paid. In addition, litigation and the legal expenses associated are unpredictable. Adequate budget authority must be in place to cover both reserves and the encumbrance of legal services.

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board is a 100% Special Fund agency. We are funded through the assessment of State agencies. Each assessment is actuarially calculated and agency-specific based on their potential for loss (payroll) and their loss history.

5. When was the last time you requested level funding?

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board has requested level funding every year for the last five fiscal years.

6. How many employees (not authorized positions) does your agency have, and how does this compare to the number of employees in the last fiscal year (FY 2014) and three years ago (FY 2012)?

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board has 8 employees (which does correspond to our number of authorized positions). This number has not changed since FY 2010.

7. What steps is your agency taking to prepare for "performance based budgeting"?

Legislative leadership unveiled their plan for implementation and goals over the summer, so what direction are you moving to position your agency for that important transition?

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board has been working to improve its data management systems which will allow for better data collection. Staff has begun dialog regarding goals and benchmarks and how to effectively measure what we do.

8. In addition to our new ways of evaluating agency performance; likewise, we are also evaluating our current budgeting procedure. In your opinion, are there improvements we can make to the budgeting process (new technology, hearing schedules, etc.)?

Technology and timing changes could improve the current process. Because much of the data needed is already available in transparency and in the new MAGIC system, the integration of these systems would make the process much more efficient. In addition, moving the deadline back to September 1 - so that actual expenditures are truly indicative of what you spent during the fiscal year, including the lapse period – would be beneficial for comparison purposes.

9. Have you done any type of program audits within your agency to determine their functionality, success, or failure? How many programs are housed and managed within your agency? What is your most successful program? What is your least successful program?

Just as the State Auditor's Office audits records on occasion, we too audit claims and the processes associated with them for accuracy, efficiency, and outcome. Currently, a Claims Audit is scheduled for mid-November. We also periodically review internal processes and look for ways to improve functionality. The Mississippi Tort Claims Board is a single program agency.

10. Legislative leaders have worked diligently to sharpen our pencils in order to make sure we continue to fund priorities and get more for the money we spend. What type of measures has your agency taken to ensure accountability and to maximize efficiencies?

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board takes very seriously the commitment to managing and expending public funds. The Tort Claims Fund is assessed annually by an actuary not only to ensure proper funding levels but also to look at trending levels that could affect the Fund's future status. As mentioned in the question above, we do audit claim files and internal processes to assess our performance as well.

11. Over the past 5 years (FY 2010-2015), how much have your costs risen as it relates to state health insurance and the employer contribution for PERS?

See DFA agency response.

12. Speaking of health insurance, what impact – in terms of increased costs, increased regulatory burdens, or both – has Obamacare had on your agency?

See DFA agency response.

13. Are there any state statutory or regulatory changes that would help your agency operate more efficiently and spend taxpayer dollars more wisely? Are there regulations coming from federal agencies that are affecting your budget? Explain what those changes are and how they would help your agency.

The effects of judicial interpretation of the Mississippi Tort Claims Act (MS Code 11-46-1 et seq) are eroding the exemptions of the State as originally set by the Legislature and placing unreal expectations on those responsible for maintaining State roads, those pursuing fleeing criminals, and other State employees. As these exemptions are eroded, the Fund and State agencies are left to bear the financial brunt. We hope to work with the Legislature – as the State's policymaking body – in this next Session to clarify their intent as to the State's exemption to liability in certain situations.

14. How many vehicles did you purchase last fiscal year when the moratorium was lifted? Was the vehicle(s) a replacement? What does it cost to service, fuel and maintain those vehicles? How many vehicles has your total fleet reduced by as a result of the 2012 Moratorium that included fleet reduction?

In FY 2014, the Mississippi Tort Claims Board purchased a 2015 Ford Fusion to <u>replace</u> a 2010 Ford Fusion with over 120,000 miles. We spent \$4,249 on fuel, service, and maintenance on the vehicle in FY 2014 and have spent an average of \$4,180 each year over the last three fiscal years. Our "fleet" is composed of this one vehicle.

15. What is the total amount of pay raises that your agency has given employees in the past three fiscal years (FY 2012-2015)? Explain whether those raises were given to rank-and-file employees or agency leadership, as well as what criteria was used to give such raises.

FY 2012 – Educational benchmark for employee receiving Accounting Degree, \$1,614.17 annually

FY 2015 – Three employees received pay raises based on language in our appropriation bill because they had not received a salary increase since July 1, 2010. Each received a 5% increase and the total was \$8,459.83 annually.

16. What does your agency spend on radio/print/television advertising? Do you see the return from that investment? Is it required by law or a choice?

In the event of a Request For Proposal, we are required by law to place a print ad. Other than that expense, we do not spend any money for radio/print/television advertising.

17. In light of recent actions by Congress, or more inaction than action, have you examined your budget when it comes to federal funds and determined what plan of action you would implement if we face another sequestration or just overall failure to fund programs? How well could you absorb cuts and/or redirect resources?

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board does not have any federal funds.

18. This past session we gave the Department of Education exemption from Personnel Board for two years. If your agency were to get the same type of exemption, how do you envision your agency would benefit? Would changes get your agency to "right-size" or do you feel that it is currently operating at the "right-size"?

This exemption would not be of great benefit because the Tort Claims Board staff is already "right-sized" or perhaps understaffed by one position. If the exemption also meant freedom from compliance rules and the ability to use funds for an additional salary, it *might* be beneficial.

19. Does your agency own its own building or do you rent space? How much do you pay in rent/mortgage each month/year? How many square feet per employee does your agency allot? Has your spending on space (rent/mortgage) increased in the last 5 years?

Our office rents space on the 13th floor of the Woolfolk Building. We currently have 3,963 square feet of space – 3,202 sq. ft. of office space and 761 sq. ft. of common space. We pay \$3,963 per month, or \$47,556 per year. We have not had an increase in the last five years.

20. If a taxpayer wanted to find out more information about your agency, how would they do that (phone number, website, email, etc.)?		
Information is available on our website, or they could contact the Administrator or DFA Office of Communications.		

21. If a taxpayer, member of the media, or other interested party wanted to find out more about your spending, how would they do that? (phone number, website, email, etc.)?

They would need to contact DFA Office of Communications for more information.

22. If we are faced with having to fully fund MAEP this year and you are faced with budget cuts, what are you going to cut.

The Mississippi Tort Claims Board is 100% funded with special funds.

23. If you were given the option to choose between a 2% increase in your general operations and freedom from the Personnel Board and level funding, what would be the best fit for your agency?

Because we are already "right-sized" or close to it, the 2% increase would be the best fit for our agency.

- 24. If you are requesting an increase in funding this year, please answer the following questions:
 - a. How much more money are you requesting this year?
 - b. Why are you requesting more money? On what will you spend these additional dollars?
 - c. What is your proposed source of funding for these additional dollars?
 - d. What does your agency expect to accomplish through the expenditure of these additional dollars?
 - e. What goals are you trying to achieve through the expenditure of these additional dollars?
 - f. How will the increase in dollars help you achieve these goals?
 - g. What additional benefit do you see coming to the taxpayer through the expenditure of these additional dollars?
 - h. What is your requested travel budget for FY 2016? What is the travel policy for your particular agency? When is the last time you reviewed and/or modified that policy?

Our budget request is a level request. No additional funding is requested.

- 25. If your agency is requesting a deficit appropriation:
 - a. Please explain why the agency is running a deficit.
 - b. Please show why last year's appropriation was insufficient.
 - c. Provide us with a detailed breakdown showing where the money went.
 - d. How many deficit requests have you had in the last three years.

We have not made a deficit request.

26. Do you feel you need to make an oral presentation to the JLBC? If so, why? What do you propose to say during the presentation that you feel justifies the need to make an oral presentation?

We do not need to make an oral presentation.



P. RYAN BECKETT, CHAIRMAN

MIKE CHANEY, Commissioner Insurance Department LYNN FITCH, Treasurer Department of Treasury JIM HOOD, Attorney General Office of Attorney General GARY RIKARD, Executive Director Department of Environmental Quality ALBERT SANTA CRUZ, Commissioner Department of Public Safety KEVIN J. UPCHURCH, Executive Director Department of Finance and Administration

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mississippi Tort Claims Board

FROM:

Steve Milner

DATE:

September 11, 2014

RE:

Loss Control Report

Since the last Board Meeting, loss control and risk management services for the Tort Claims Board include:

- 19 State Property/Leased Property Inspections
- 2 Defensive Driving Classes
- 2 Pre construction safety meetings
- 6 Risk Management consultations
- 4 Safety Meetings
- 4 Ride-a-longs
- 1 ADA follow up assessment
- 3 Emergency Responses



P. RYAN BECKETT, CHAIRMAN

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GARY RIKARD, Executive Director Department of Environmental Quality ALBERT SANTA CRUZ, Commissioner Department of Public Safety
KEVIN J. UPCHURCH, Executive Director Department of Finance and Administration

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mississippi Tort Claims Board

FROM:

Lea Ann McElroy

DATE:

September 11, 2014

RE:

Additions to Defense Attorney List

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of (1) attorney for

inclusion on Defense Attorney List

W. Lee Watt

Gibbs Whitwell, PLLC

1400 Meadowbrook Road, Suite 100

Jackson, Mississippi 39211



W. Lee Watt

Email: lwatt@gibbswhitwell.com

Telephone: 601.487.2624

Facsimile: 601.366.4295

September 2, 2014

Bruce Donaldson MS Tort Claims Board P. O. Box 267 Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Bruce:

I request to be added to the Mississippi Tort Claims Board's list of approved attorneys. I have over 30 years of litigation experience and in good standing with the Mississippi Bar Association. My resume' is attached for your consideration

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Respectfully,

Gibbs Whitwell & Travis PLLC

W. Lee Watt

WLW:jm Enclosure

W. Lee Watt

LWatt@GibbsWhitwell.com

601.487.2624

Business Address:

1400 Meadowbrook Road, Suite 100 Jackson, Mississippi 39211

Residential Address:

527 Shalom Way

Flowood, Mississippi 39232

Education:

University of Mississippi – B. Accountancy, 1981 University of Mississippi – J.D., 1983

Employment:

Gibbs Whitwell & Travis, PLLC

June 2014 to Present

Jackson, MS

Bennett Lotterhos Sulser & Wilson, P.A.

January 2010 to May 2014

Jackson, MS

Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes, PLLC Jackson & Pascagoula, MS

July 2001 to December 2009

ackson a rascago ala, mo

Brown, Watt & Buchanan, PA Pascagoula & Biloxi, MS

July 1988 to June 2001

Roberts & Clisby, PA Oxford, MS January 1984 to June 1988

Litigation Experience:

Tried to verdict over 60 cases involving product liability, shareholder rights, eminent domain, banking, employment, annexation, construction, real estate, insurance, civil rights, premises liability and transportation, as well as over twenty (24) years of managing mass tort cases.

Administrative experience:

Representation of local governmental entities, including fire, utility and school districts and governmental relations for tax incentives, permitting and litigation matters.

Commercial experience:

Mergers & acquisitions, shareholder rights and business origination.

Memberships:

The Mississippi Bar, Ethics & Court Liaison and Judicial Administration Committees Mississippi Defense Lawyers Association

American Bar Association, Tort Litigation Committee

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Jackson County Port Authority, Commissioner, governor appointee

General narratives:

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell

Successfully defended manufacturers and distributors in asbestos litigation since 1990.

Successfully defended product liability, premises, Title VII, bad faith and ERISA claims in state and federal courts.

Represented industrial clients in litigation and governmental affairs for environmental permitting matters and remediation efforts.

Served as lead trial counsel in more than 100 eminent cases for pipeline projects covering over 200 miles in Mississippi.

Represented manufacturers and energy companies in mass tort and class actions.

Successfully defended numerous trucking cases in arbitration and state and federal courts.

Served as lead trial counsel in numerous annexation cases.

Successfully prosecuted and defended numerous shareholder and D&O cases involving freeze-out, fraud and corporate mismanagement claims in state and federal courts.

Obtained favorable verdicts in prosecution and defense of construction claims in state and federal courts.

Negotiated sales and acquisitions of numerous small business ventures (annual revenue of \$5,000,000 to \$20,000,000).

Represented various city and county governmental entities, including police, fire and utility districts.

Representative reported cases:

DeJean v. DeJean and Hancock Bank, 982 So. 2d 443 (Miss. App. 2007) (bank held not liable to co-owner of certificate of deposit)

Graves v. Dudley Maples, L.P., 950 So. 2d 1017 (Miss. 2007) (aff'd creation of prescriptive easement)

Scruggs, Millette, Bozeman & Dent, P.A. v. Merkel & Cocke, P.A., 910 So. 2d 1093 (Miss. 2005) (attorneys held not liable for intentional interference with contract)

Missala Marine Services, Inc. v. Odom, 861 So. 2d 290 (Miss. 2003) (minority shareholder entitled to damages for corporate freeze-out)

Ford v. Destin Pipeline Co., L.L.C., 809 So. 2d 573 (Miss. 2000) (eminent domain)

In re Conservatorship of McGowen, 752 So. 2d 1078 (Miss. App. 1999) (grantor competent to transfer title in absence of undue influence)

Dedeaux v. J.I. Case Co., Inc., 611 So. 2d 880 (Miss. 1992) (aff'd verdict for backhoe mfg. in wrongful death suit)

Jackson Cnty. Sch. Bd. v. Osborn, 605 So. 2d 731 (Miss. 1992) (aff'd mandamus writ against school board)

Estate of Osborn v. Gerling Global Life Ins. Co., 529 So. 2d 169 (Miss. 1988) (direct cause of action against reinsurer available)



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Department of Environmental Quality
ALBERT SANTA CRUZ, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety
KEVIN J. UPCHURCH, Executive Director
Department of Finance and Administration

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mississippi Tort Claims Board

FROM: Lea Ann McElroy **DATE:** September 11, 2014

RE: Political Subdivisions – Certificates of Coverage

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of 67 political

subdivisions shown on attached list.

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Political Subdivisions Recommended for Renewal of Certificate of Coverage

Alcorn County Fire Service

Baldwyn Public School District

Banner VFD

Bobo Bayou Drainage District

Canton School District

Carroll County Board of Supervisors

Cleveland School District

Copiah Lincoln Community College

Covington County Board of Supervisors

DeSoto County School District

Drainage District #2

East Jasper School District

Farmhaven Volunteer Fire Department

Fenton Volunteer Fire Department

Forrest County School District

Forrest General Hospital (includes Highlands Community Hospital)

Grenada School District

Harrison County School District

Hattiesburg Municipal Airport

Hattiesburg School District

Holly Springs School District

Holmes County Board of Supervisors

Itawamba County School Board

Jefferson County Board of Supervisors

Jefferson Davis County School District

Jones County Board of Education

Lafayette County Fire District

Liberty Branch Volunteer Fire Department

Lone Star Volunteer Fire Department

Louisville Municipal School District

Ludlow Volunteer Fire Department

Marshall County Fire Service

Marshall County School District

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Natchez-Adams School District

NE Calhoun VFD

North Panola School District

North Tunica County Fire Protection District

Northwest Mississippi Community College

Noxubee County School District

Okolona Municipal Separate School District

Oktibbeha County Board of Supervisors

Palmetto-Old Union Fire Department

Perry County School Board

Post 58 Fire Department

Sabougla VFD

Saltillo Fire Department

Saltillo Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Smith County School District

South Delta School District

South Lee Volunteer Fire Protection District

South Panola School District

Southwest Covington County VFD

Sunflower County Consolidated School District

Tate-Panola Drainage District #1

Tunica County Board of Education

Union Volunteer Fire Department

Vicksburg Warren School District

Walls Fire Department Inc.

Wayne County Fire

West Bolivar Consolidated School District

West Jasper County School District

West Point City Clerk

West Tallahatchie School District

Winona Separate School District

Yazoo City Public Schools

Yazoo - MS Delta Levee Board



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mississippi Tort Claims Board

FROM: Bruce Donaldson **DATE:** September 11, 2014

William Buckley vs. Mississippi Department of Transportation